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NOMENCLATORIAL NOTES ON SOME PROTOBRANCH BIVALVES (**)

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Abstract

Some notes are proposed to the Annotated check-list of Sabelli et al. (1990-1992), related to some Protobranch taxa. Neilonellidae must be attributed to Allen, 1978, Phaseolidae Scarlato & Starobogatov, 1971 should be used instead of Lametilidae, and Yoldiellinae must be attributed to Allen, 1978.

Riassunto

Vengono proposte alcune note al Catalogo Annotato di Sabelli et al. (1990-1992) relative ad alcuni taxa di Bivalvi Protobranchi. Neilonellidae va attribuito ad Allen, 1978, Phaseolidae Scarlato & Starobogatov, 1981 va usato per *Phaseolus* piuttosto che Lametilidae, e Yoldiellinae va attribuito ad Allen, 1978.

Most of the recent check-lists of Molluscs (i.e. VAUGHT, 1989; SABELLI et. al., 1990-1992), have taken note, at least in part, of the proposals of «Reclassification of the Recent genera of the subclass Protobranchia (Mollusca: Bivalvia)» by J.A. ALLEN & F.J. HANNAH (1986). FASULO (1988) proposed and adjustment of the Classification of the Mediterranean species on the ground of ALLEN & HANNAH's work.

Besides some debated positions (i.e. the unrecognition of the Protobranchia as a subclass: see MAXWELL, 1988 for a discussion), ALLEN & HANNAH underwent a series of nomenclatorial mistakes first pointed out by MAXWELL (1988). FASULO corrected some of his consequent errors in a brief *errata corrigere* (1990), and SABELLI et al. (1990-1992) followed indications from a wider range of specialists. Notwithstanding, a few nomenclatorial points still need to be corrected in the Mediterranean check-list (pp. 274-276 Vol. 1, and pp. 455-45 Vol. 2).

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Neilonellidae Allen, 1978

The use in Malacology of the genus name *Saturnia* (which is to be attributed to BELLARDI, 1875, rather than to SEGUENZA, 1877 (MAXWELL, 1988) or to DALL, 1881 (ALLEN & HANNAH, 1986)), and of the family name Saturniidae ALLEN & HANNAH, 1986 was obviously an oversight by A. & H. and by FASULO (1988): the genus *Saturnia* is widely used for a well known Lepidopteran, and dates back to SCHRANK (1802), while the relative family name Saturniidae is by BOISDUVAL (1837). FASULO (1990) corrected this point naming a «new» family 'Neilonellidae n. fam.' (for *Neilonella* DALL, 1881 = *Saturnia* SEGUENZA, 1877 [sic!]), VAUGHT (1989) listed Neilonellidae with no author reference, and finally, SABELLI et al. (1990-1992) attributed Neilonellidae to VAUGTH. As already stated by MAXWELL, Neilonellidae was created for *Neilonella* by ALLEN (1978) and this combination must be given priority over both Fasulo's and Vaught's names.

Phaseolidae Scarlato & Starobogatov, 1971

As pointed out by MAXWELL (1988) Phaseolidae SCARLATO & STAROBOGATOV, 1971 is the family name to be used for *Phaseolus* MONTEROSATO, 1875 ex Jeffreys Ms. Even if *Phaseolus* is considered to be confamilial with *Lametila*, Phaseolidae must be given priority (fide Maxwell) over Lametiliidae SCARLATO & STAROBOGATOV, 1971 (not ALLEN & SANDERS, 1973).

Yoldiellinae Allen, 1978

This subfamily was erected by ALLEN (1978). The great problems in the Classification of the Protobranchs Bivalves are well displayed by the diverse opinions on the yoldiid arrangement (see MAXWELL, 1988). Recognition of *Sarepta* as confamilial with *Yoldia* would involve the use of the family name Sareptidae A. ADAMS, 1860. On the other hand, *Sarepta* is placed by some Authors (HABE, 1977; SCARLATO & STAROBOGATOV, 1985) either in synonymy or in close relationship with *Pristigloma*, that is a Nucolid, rather than considering it closer to the Nuculanoids as suggested by SANDERS & ALLEN (1973).

Jupiteria Bellardi, 1875

MAXWELL (1988) suggested that *Jupiteria* would be worth recognising as a full genus, on the ground of some shell features.

Finally, it must be pointed out that the major problems in the Classification of the Protobranch Bivalves are not nomenclatorial ones. A definitive phylogenetic scheme is still far to be compiled, but this is a necessary step before constructing any classification. A deeper interconnection between paleontologists and neontologists, would result in a more accurate drawing of the long evolutionary history of «these fascinating but difficult bivalves» (MAXWELL, 1988:92).

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